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SUBJ: INFORMATION ON PROFESSOR DANILO RASKOVIC

REF: STATE 298912

1. OUR EARLIEST INFORMATION ON DANILO RASKOVIC DATES FROM EARLY 1960'S, WHEN HE WAS PROFESSOR OF MECHANICS AT BELGRADE UNIVERSITY ENGINEERING FACULTY. UNIVERSITY REQUIRES ITS PROFESSORS TO RUN FOR REELECTION PERIODICALLY, AND RASKOVIC STOOD FOR REELECTION IN 1963, BUT WAS DEFEATED. ONE OF RASKOVIC'S FRIENDS BELIEVES THAT BECAUSE OF HIS "UNORTHODOX POLITICAL VIEWS," UNNAMED OFFICIALS SECRETLY CAMPAIGNED TO HAVE HIM REMOVED FROM UNIVERSITY. DURING ELECTION CAMPAIGN SEVERAL ARTICLES APPEARED IN "DUGA" MAGAZINE SHARPLY CRITICAL OF RASKOVIC'S VIEWS, AND THIS WOULD SEEM TO CORROBORATE "OFFICIAL DISPLEASURE" THEORY. SHORTLY AFTERWARDS RASKOVIC PACKED UP AND MOVED TO NIS, WHERE HE TAUGHT MECHANICS AT LOCAL UNIVERSITY FOR SEVERAL YEARS BEFORE BEING PENSIONED OFF.

2. IN 1974 RASKOVIC ACCEPTED INVITATION TO LECTURE AT ENGINEERING FACULTY OF MOSTAR. HERE HIS CONTROVERSIAL POLITICAL OPINIONS ONCE AGAIN GOT HIM INTO TROUBLE, AND THIS TIME HE WAS SENTENCED TO 16 MONTHS IN JAIL.

3. THE FOLLOWING IS AN ARTICLE FROM VECERNJE NOVOSTI OF MARCH 13, 1975, WHICH GIVES DETAILS OF CASE:

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"MOSTAR, MARCH 12 - THE CRIMINAL COUNCIL OF THE REGIONAL COURT OF MOSTAR HAS ASSESSED AS AN ATTACK AGAINST BROTHERHOOD

AND UNITY THE "PROFESSORIAL BEHAVIOUR" AND CHAUVINIST OUTBURSTS OF PROFESSOR DR. DANILO RASKOVIC (65), A RETIRED PROFESSOR OF BELGRADE UNIVERSITY AND ASSOCIATE (VANREDNI) PROFESSOR OF THE ENGINEERING FACULTY OF MOSTAR. AT THE MAIN TRIAL HELD YESTERDAY, THE COUNCIL FOUND HIM GUILTY AND SENTENCED HIM TO 16 MONTHS OF STRICT IMPRISONMENT.

ACCORDING TO THE INDICTMENT WHICH WAS PROVED IN ITS ENTIRETY AND WAS REPRESENTED (SUBMITTED) BY THE DEPUTY PUBLIC PROSECUTOR OF MOSTAR BORISLAV GACIC, ON DECEMBER 17 LAST YEAR PROFESSOR RASKOVIC, IN THE CAFE OF "BRISTOL" HOTEL, IN COMPANY WITH PROMINENT MOSTAR CITIZENS, DENIED THE MACEDONIAN AND MOSLEM NATIONS, SAYING THAT THEY WERE ARTIFICIAL CREATIONS, AND THAT BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA AS SUCH CANNOT EXIST.

"IT WAS NOT EASY FOR ME TO LISTEN TO THE INSULTS AGAINST THE MACEDONIAN AND MOSLEM NATIONS, AND (ALLEGATIONS) THAT IN OUR COUNTRY THERE ONLY EXIST SERBS AND CROATS," NUSRET KRESO SAID IN HIS EVIDENCE; "ESPECIALLY BECAUSE PROFESSOR RASKOVIC KNEW THAT I AM A DEPUTY PUBLIC PROSECUTOR OF THE REGIONAL COURT OF MOSTAR. ALL OUR ENDEAVOURS TO PERSUADE HIM THAT HE WAS PROCEEDING ALONG A WRONG DIRECTION WERE IN VAIN."

"I THINK THAT MY DEFENDENT, BY HIS BEHAVIOUR THAT EVENING, ONLY GAVE GROUNDS FOR SUSPICION THAT HE HAD COMMITTED THE CRIMINAL ACT (ARTICLE 118 OF THE CRIMINAL LAW) WITH WHICH THE INDICTMENT CHARGES HIM," LAWYER JOVAN VUKCEVIC OF BELGRADE SAID IN HIS CONCLUDING SPEECH. "BUT ON THE BASIS OF THAT, THE CONCLUSION CANNOT BE DRAWN THAT HE COMMITTED A PREMEDITATED CRIMINAL ACT, ESPECIALLY BECAUSE HE WAS DRUNK."

NEVERTHELESS THE COUNCIL, PRESIDED OVER BY SLAVKO SANTIC, AFTER LENGTHY DISCUSSIONS, DID NOT ENDORSE THE STATEMENTS OF THE DEFENSE AND ITS DEMAND THAT RASKOVIC BE RELEASED FROM DETAINMENT."
SILBERMAN

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